



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Tres Rios Field Office
161 Burnett Drive Unit #4
Durango, Colorado 81301
www.blm.gov/colorado

In Reply Refer To:

3809 (LLCOS01000)
COC-080948, COC-080949, COC-080950

July 7, 2023

DELIVERED VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Lucas.west@state.co.us

Lucas West, Environmental Protection Specialist
Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80302

Dear Mr. West:

On June 26, 2023, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Tres Rios Field Office (TRFO) received your email with the subject *Wedding Bell NOI Bond Calculations and Request for Concurrence*, regarding the reclamation cost estimate for the proposed exploration drilling operations for the Sec 23 (COC080948), Groundhog (COC080949), and Rimrock (COC080950), known collectively as the Wedding Bell Project (Notice), that would be conducted on unpatented mining claims in the Wedding Bell area of San Miguel and Montrose Counties in Colorado. The total respective estimated reclamation costs are \$9,170 (Sec 23 COC080948), \$8,503 (Groundhog COC080949), and \$8,153 (Rimrock COC080950).

The Wedding Bell Project in its entirety, would involve drilling a total of 27 holes; 11 holes at Sec 23 (COC080948), 8 holes at Groundhog (COC080949), and 8 holes at Rimrock (COC080950). It would include the use of existing County and BLM roads, overland cross-country travel, and some temporary access road construction to facilitate movement of equipment and crews to the various locations.

The project has been reviewed by the TRFO and has been found to contain the information required by 43 CFR 3809.301 and would not cause undue and/or unnecessary degradation of public lands as defined by 43 CFR 3809.5. The amount of the reclamation cost estimate is based on the operator complying with all applicable operating cost requirements as outlined in the Notice and the regulations at 43 CFR 3809. BLM discussed the reclamation cost estimate and the factors used to calculate it with the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (CDRMS) and found that the cost estimate is sufficient to cover the cost to government to reclaim disturbance that would be caused by implementation of the notice level drilling proposals.

This letter provides concurrence from the BLM to the CDRMS on the amount of the financial warranty for the Wedding Bell Project. If you have any questions, please contact Bridget Wade, TRFO Geologist at (970) 385-1342 or bcwade@blm.gov.

Sincerely,

Derek Padilla
Field Manager